

AMBROSEO JOHN  
Form 4  
December 17, 2010

**FORM 4**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
AMBROSEO JOHN

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
COHERENT INC [COHR]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
P.O. BOX 54980

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
12/15/2010

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Pres. and CEO

(Street)  
SANTA CLARA, CA 95056-0980

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount (A) or (D) Price		
Common Stock	12/15/2010		M		12,790 A \$ 23.16	101,778	D
Common Stock	12/15/2010		S		12,790 (1) D \$ 45.0184 (2)	88,988	D
Common Stock	12/16/2010		M		958 A \$ 23.16	89,946	D
Common Stock	12/16/2010		S		958 (1) D \$ 45.0221 (3)	88,988	D

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Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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(9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares		
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	
Non Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 23.16	12/15/2010		M		12,790		11/17/2010	11/17/2014	Common Stock	12,790
Non Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 23.16	12/16/2010		M		958		11/17/2010	11/17/2014	Common Stock	958

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
AMBROSEO JOHN P.O. BOX 54980 SANTA CLARA, CA 95056-0980	X		Pres. and CEO	

## Signatures

John Ambroseo 12/17/2010

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

(1) Sold Pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 sales plan adopted on May 28, 2010.

(2) Represents the weighted average sales price for the shares. The range of prices for such sales was \$45.00 to \$45.10.

(3) Represents the weighted average sales price for the shares. The range of prices for such sales was \$45.00 to \$45.07.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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